Philadelphia Dec.r 9.th 1782

My dear Jay

Before you receive this your appointment to the office of one of the Judges of appeals will be announced to you — I most sincerely congratulate you on this event by which your country have at once manifested their confidence and esteem — I cannot doubt but it will be a pleasing circumstance to you, as it is to your friends, for it will put it in your power to become more extensively useful which to your feeling mind cannot be a matter of indifference.

Although I thus express my self and hope that you will not hesitate a moment to accept the trust yet I am filled with anxiety left this appointment

should divert you at times from your attendance on the General Assembly and other employments to which you have been called by the State of Massachusetts It will undoubtedly interrupt your private business for this I trust you will be compensated by the Judiciary. ———

Mr. Osgood Mr. Nash of North Carolina and General Mifflin are appointed a committee and are to leave this in a few days for Rhode Island to represent to that State the fatal consequences which will ensue should they omit long to pass the five per cent duty —— I find that it is the opinion of many that the State of Massachusetts has great influence over that of Rhode Island and that they are encouraged to hold out from the division in our State I thought it necessary to give you this hint that if possible the opposition in

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our State might cease — I hope that
some thing will be done relative to the
old continental money before the com-
mittee leave this State this will encourage
the Massachusetts to further exertions
and it will evidence to Rhode Island
a disposition in Congress to do them justice
I hope that the State of Rhode
Island will be induced to comply with the
the request not only because a very perma-
nent fund will be thereby established but
because I am very apprehensive that in consequence
it will result from a further obstinacy in
that State — Congress I think it a
matter of the greatest importance to get
the 5 P Cent duly through the opinion
is unalterable at any I think should
have great influence with any one
State and especially when they
must be convinced that Congress

have no other motives to action
than what ought from a wish
to promote the general interest.

I am my dear Sir with
the greatest esteem your
most obedient & most
humble Servant

A Lincoln

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